Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether the hon. Member is aware that large consumers of electricity, including the Corporation of Madras, have complained that the rate is very high? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I am not aware of it. "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the Madras Electric Supply Corporation is a consumer or supplier ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I believe it is both. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Is not the hon. the Law Member aware that a representation has been made by the Corporation of Madras about the increased rates ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I am not aware of it."

Staff recruited for the Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme.

* 243 *Q.*—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of engineers, assistant engineers and accountants recruited in connexion with the Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme and what are their special technical qualifications and their respective salaries, local and leave allowances;

(*b*) whether these posts were advertised in India; if so, in what all newspapers and how many times; and

(*c*) the number of applications received.

A.—(*a*) A statement [a] is attached.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The question does not arise.

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" With reference to (*b*), may I know whether there is any special reason for not advertising for these posts ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Because the Hydro-Electric Chief Engineer called for applications from both officials and non-officials throughout India and interviewed many of the applicants who had sent in their applications. "

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" By advertisement will they not get applications ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Not of the required type. "

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" In what other way will applications be called for ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" By correspondence with officers in the Presidency."

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 137 infra.

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Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—"That is to say, only those recommended by certain officers are considered ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"That depends on the discretion of the Chief Engineer of the Hydro-Electric Department."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—"If, in addition to the recommendations of officers, advertisement also is made, will it not result in securing more suitable men?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"Not likely."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—"Why were not applications invited ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"Because it was not thought necessary."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—"Why not ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"I have already answered that question."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—"Who fixes the pay of these posts ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"Government."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—"Do the Government think Rs. 400 and 500 are necessary as initial pay ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"Yes."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—"Cannot Government get cheaper men by advertisement ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"I have answered that question."

Forests

Appointment of the Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests.

11-45 a.m. * 244 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) why the appointment of Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests is being made from the ranks of Deputy Conservators of Forests and not Deputy Collectors as before; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Chief Conservator of Forests has been objecting to the appointment of Indian officers to the post and if so, what is his objection?

A.—(*a*) Because an officer of the department with some years of District experience is found more useful as a Personal Assistant than a Deputy Collector.

(*b*) No.